

BOTANY.—*A new Gossypium of Lower California.*¹ THOMAS H. KEARNEY, Bureau of Plant Industry.

In 1931, as guests of Mr. Allison V. Armour, G. N. Collins, J. H. Kempton and the writer participated in a cruise in the Gulf of California. Seeds of *Gossypium harknessii* Brandegee were collected on Carmen Island and, of what was supposed at the time to be a peculiar form of the same species, on San Marcos Island. Through the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Page, resident on the latter island, an abundant supply of seeds was received later. Plants were grown in California from these several lots of seed; and it became apparent, almost immediately, that the San Marcos Island plant is very different from typical *harknessii*, as represented by the Carmen Island collection.² Plants of both forms flowered and fruited at several stations in southern California in 1933. Comparison of these living plants, growing side by side, left no room for doubt that the plant of San Marcos Island is a quite distinct species. It has not, apparently, been described previously, although herbarium specimens were collected at the same locality by Ivan M. Johnston, as a member of the expedition of the California Academy of Sciences to the Gulf of California in 1921.

It is a pleasure to name this attractive little shrub in honor of Mr. Allison V. Armour, whose generous cooperation has enabled the Department of Agriculture to introduce valuable plants from many parts of the world, and who made it possible to obtain the evidence that the San Marcos Island plant is a new species of *Gossypium*.

Gossypium armourianum, sp. nov.

Frutex ramosissimus, ramis patulis vel adscendentibus, praeter corollam, capsulae partem interiorem, et semina mox glaberrimus; lamina folii crassa, nitida, 2–3.5 cm. longa et subaequilata vel latior, non lobata, subcordata, apice obtusa vel acutiuscula et saepe mucronata; pedunculus anthesi 2–4 cm. longus, subclavatus, sine nectariis; involucellum caducissimum, bracteolis 2–5 mm. longis distinctis subulatis integris; calyx 5-dentatus, dentibus 1–2 mm. longis, triangulis vel subulatis; petala 2.5–4.5 cm. longa, sulfurea, maculam conspicuam rubram ferentia vel nonnunquam immaculosa; filamenta 2–4 mm. longa, tenua; antherae ca. 1 mm. longae; styli et stigmata 20–25 mm. longa; ovarium 3–4-loculatum, loculis plerumque 3-ovulatis; capsula 10–20 mm. longa, ovoidea, abrupte acuminata vel interdum solum apiculata, intus margine valvarum glabra vel pilis raris longis debilibus ciliata; semina loculo quoque 1–3, 7–9 mm. longa, saepe solide connata, obovoidea, angulata, pilis appressis crispatis subfulvis dense pilosa.

¹ Received November 11, 1933.

² The difference was noticed, in the early seedling stage, by C. G. Marshall, Superintendent of the U. S. Acclimatization Garden, Torrey Pines, Calif.